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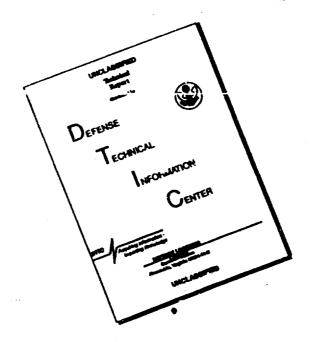
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Studies on 1-Trimethylsilyl-2,4,6-triethylborazine and Related Species

by

K. Niedenzu, J. Serwatowska, and J. Serwatowski



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University of Kentucky Department of Chemistry Lexington, KY 40506

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Studies on 1-Trimethylsilyl-2,4,6-triethylborazine and Related Species

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The unsymmetrically substituted borazine $(C_6H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ has been obtained from the reaction of $C_6H_5BCl_2$ with $HN[Si(CH_3)_3]_2$, and an improved synthesis of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ has been developed. The reaction of the latter with an excess of BCl_3 proceeds with the ultimate formation of $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$, whereas the reaction with one molar equivalent of BBr_3 leads to the formation of $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$, but which is contaminated by substantial amounts of $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$ besides a diborazinyl and additional products. $C_6H_5BBr_2$ reacts with $N[Si(CH_3)_3]_3$ to give the aminoborane $\{(CH_3)_3Si\}_2NBBr(C_6H_5)$, but $C_6H_5BCl_2$ does not undergo a reaction under analogous conditions.

Introduction

The cleavage of a Si-N bond by reaction with a haloborane has been widely utilized as a convenient method for the formation of B-N bonds, i. e., equations 1 and 2 [1].

$$>B-X + HN[Si(CH3)3]2 \longrightarrow >B-NH[Si(CH3)3] + (CH3)3SiX (1)$$

$$>B-X + 2 HN[Si(CH3)3]2 \longrightarrow >B-NH-B< + 2 (CH3)3SiX$$
 (2)

However, in a study of the reaction between BCl₃ and various silylamines it has been found that, besides the "normal" Si-N bond cleavage with the elimination of (CH₃)₃SiCl, N-C (as well as Si-H) cleavage may also occur [2]. Indeed, the Si-N bond cleavage on reaction with haloboranes is not as selective as is generally assumed, and another noteworthy example for an unusual cleavage of a silylamine on reaction with a haloborane, i. e., N-H cleavage, was observed recently: In the synthesis of the borazine (-BC₂H₅-NH-)₃ by the reaction of HN[Si(CH₃)₃]₂ with C₂H₅BCl₂ [3], the unsymmetrically substituted species (C₂H₅)₃B₃N₃H₂[Si(CH₃)₃] could be isolated as a substantial byproduct [4]. Yields of this latter borazine were found to be irregular and ranged between 10 and 40 %. Variations of the experimental conditions did not establish a clear trend, although relatively large-scale syntheses (1 molar scale and above) and working at about 0°C (rather than at lower temperatures) tended to give somewhat higher yields of the unsymmetrical species [4].

Results and Discussion

The reaction of $C_6H_5BCl_2$ with $HN[Si(CH_3)_3]_2$ following the previously outlined procedure [3] gave the expected borazine $(-BC_6H_5-NH_-)_3$ in excellent yield and there was no indication whatever that a N-silyated borazine was formed as a byproduct. The same held true when benzene was used as a diluent, but replacing benzene by toluene as reaction medium and working at slightly higher temperatures (i. e., near 0°C), yielded a mixture of approximately equimolar quantities of the two borazines $(-BC_6H_5-NH_-)_3$ and $(C_6H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$, which are formed by the two competing reactions according to equations 3 and 4, respectively.

$$3 RBCl_2 + 3 HN[Si(CH_3)_3]_2 \longrightarrow 6 (CH_3)_3 SiCl + (-BR-NH-)_3$$
 (3)

$$3 RBCl_2 + 3 HN[Si(CH_3)_3]_2 \longrightarrow 5 (CH_3)_3 SiC! + HCl + R_3 B_3 N_3 H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$$
 (4)

Based on this experience, an improved preparation of the corresponding $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ by the interaction of $C_2H_5BCl_2$ with $HN[Si(CH_3)_3]_2$ could be developed. However, it should be noted that with increasing formation of the unsymmetrically substituted borazine, there is an overall decrease in the yield of isolable boron compounds.

The chemistry of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ has not yet been explored in detail, although the compound has been utilized for the synthesis of some polyborazinyls via condensation reactions with B-halogenated borazines [5]. These latter reactions generally proceed with the elimination of $(CH_3)_3SiX$ (X = Cl, Br) and formation of a B-N linkage according to equation 5.

$$(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3] + XR_2B_3N_3R_3' \longrightarrow (CH_3)_3SiX + (C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[R_2B_3N_3R_3']$$
 (5)

The interaction of BX_3 (X = Cl, Br) with 2,4,6-triorganylborazines, (-BR-NR'-), has recently been found to proceed with successive displacement of the B-bonded organic substituents and the exclusive formation of RBX_2 and B-halogenated borazines. The process has been used for the preparation of various B-monohalo- and B,B'-dihaloborazines as is illustrated in equations 6 and 7 (X = Cl, Br) [4,6].

$$(-BR-NR'-)_3 + BX_3 \longrightarrow XR_2B_3N_3R'_3 + RBX_2$$
 (6)

$$(-BR-NR'-)_3 + 2BX_2 \longrightarrow X_2RB_3N_3R'_3 + 2RBX_2$$
 (7)

In view of these preceding results, it seemed of interest to study the reaction of a borazine such as $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ with a boron trihalide, where alkyl/halogen exchange could potentially compete with a Si-N bond cleavage.

Even when equimolar amounts of reagents were employed, boron trichloride reacted readily with $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ to give a mixture of the borazines $Cl(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$, $Cl_2(C_2H_5)B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$, and $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_2]$, as is based on mass spectral data of the reaction

product. The latter compound became the major product after prolonged reaction times in boiling heptane and in the presence of a considerable excess of BCl₃. No cleavage of the N-Si bond was observed under these circumstance. Hence, in this case the alkyl/halogen exchange is clearly the dominant (and probably the sole) process.

The interaction of BBr₃ with (C₂H₅)₃B₃N₃H₂[Si(CH₃)₃] proceeded more complicated than in the case of BCl₃. When the reaction was performed at room temperature or below in 1:1 molar ratio, mass spectroscopic and NMR data indicated that Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₂[Si(CH₃)₃] was indeed a major product, but which was always contaminated with the previously [4] characterized Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃. In addition, the diborazinyl $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3]$ [5] could be identified (by mass spectroscopy) as one of the products. and there were also indications for the formation of the $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_2\{Si(CH_2)_3\}]$. Furthermore, the amount of the $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$ increased with the reaction time, and the formation of (CH₁)₁SiBr clearly illustrated that alkyl/halogen exchange was not the sole process.

The formation of $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$ in this latter reaction can be interpreted by the initial formation of $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ which, once formed, can condense with the formation of the diborazinyls $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ and $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3]$. Indeed, it has been shown earlier [5], that the formation of diborazinyls on interaction of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ with a B-monohaloborazine is always accompanied by additional condensation processes whereby, besides the desired species, another (N)H-borazine (here: $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$) as well as polyborazinyls are formed. Thus it is not surprising that the reaction between $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ and BBr_3 could not be developed as a useful preparative procedure, as was possible in the case of the corresponding reaction of BCl_3 .

The reaction of $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ with $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$ (1:1 molar ratio, 1 hour at 150°C) also proceeded in nonselective fashion. Instead of the expected diborazinyl $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3]$, an inseparable mixture of products was obtained, consisting primarily (as is based on mass spectroscopic data) of the borazines $Cl_3B_3N_3H_3$, $Cl_2(C_2H_5)B_3N_3H_3$, and $Cl(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$.

These observations tend to support the previous [5] assumption that in such condensation reactions involving borazines and proceeding with the elimination of (CH₃)₃SiX, initially present B₃N₃ rings are opened and substantial redistribution reactions occur. Although new borazines result as products, their specific nature cannot readily predicted and the process generally also involves the formation of polyborazines.

The reaction of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ with $C_6H_5BCl_2$ (2:1 molar ratio, 3 hours heating at $160^{\circ}C$) was also investigated. Mass spectroscopic and NMR data indicated the presence of the borazines $(-BC_2H_5-NH-)_3$ and $(C_6H_5)(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ in the crude product mixture, but again no individual pure compound could be isolated, and there was no evidence for the formation of the expected di(borazin-l-yl)borane $C_6H_5B[H_2N_3B_3(C_2H_5)_3]_2$.

In a related study it was observed that $C_6H_5BCl_2$ did not react with $N[Si(CH_3)_3]_3$ at room temperature or below, whereas under analogous conditions the reaction of $C_6H_5BBr_2$ proceeded readily with the formation of the aminoborane $[(CH_3)_3Si]_2N-BBr(C_6H_5)$. The latter compound is thermally quite stable and can be distilled under reduced pressure without decomposition. This result further documents noteworthy differences in the chemical behavior of B-Br versus B-Cl species.

Experimental Section

Reactions and transfers were carried out in an inert atmosphere. Melting points (uncorrected) were determined in sealed capillaries on a Mel-Temp block. Elemental analyses were performed by the Schwarzkopf Microanalytical Laboratory, Woodside, NY.

Nonreferenced reagents were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee, WI, and used as received.

NMR spectra were recorded on solutions in CDCl₃ (unless otherwise noted) on a Varian VXR-400 or XL-200 (11 B) or GEMINI-200 (1 H, 13 C) instrument. Chemical shift data are given in ppm with positive values indicating a downfield shift from the reference (internal (CH₃)₄Si for 1 H and 13 C NMR, external (13 C) esternal (13 C) esternal (13 C) or 14 B NMR). Abbreviations are as follows: 13 C singlet, 13 C and 13 C singlet, 13 C singlet,

q = quartet, p = quintuplet, m = unresolved multiplet; an asterisk denotes a broad signal. Coupling constants J are given in Hz. El mass spectral data were obtained on a VD ZAB-2F instrument under standard operating condition; data are given in m/z = 30 for 5% or greater relative abundances (in parentheses) only.

1-Trimethylsilyl-2,4,6-triphenylborazine, $(C_6H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$

To a solution of 27.6 g (174 mmol) of C₆H₅BCl₂ in 50 mL of toluene, kept at 0°C, was added dropwise 30.0 g (191 mmol) of HN(Si(CH₃)₃]₂ over a period of 30 minutes. The cooling bath was removed and the stirred mixture autogeneously warmed to about 35°C and was subsequently heated for two hours in an oil bath of 120°C. After cooling to room temperature, volatiles (toluene and (CH₃)₃SiCl) were removed under reduced pressure, and the solid residue was stirred overnight with 120 mL of hexane. Insolubles were collected, washed with two 40-mL portions of hexane, and dried under vacuum to give 6.4 g of pure (-BC₆H₅-NH-)₃ [1]. The clear filtrate was concentrated to about 1/4 of the original volume and, on prolonged standing at room temperature, a crystalline material slowly precipitated, which was collected and dried to give the title compound, m.p. 78-80°C. Essentially complete evaporation of the hexane from the filtrate gave additional product (but which contained traces of (-BC₆H₅-NH-)₃) for an overall yield of 11.1 g.

Analysis for C₂₁H₂₆B₃N₃Si (380.98)

Found C 66.43 H 6.88 B 8.62 N 10.99 Si 7.27,

Calcd C 66.21 H 6.88 B 8.51 N 11.03 Si 7.37.

NMR data: $\delta^1 H = 7.66 (6 \text{ H, m})$, 7.46 (9 H, m), 5.67* (2 H, s), -0.21 (9 H, s); $\delta^{11} B$ 37.6 (2 B, s, $h_{1/2} = 800 \text{ Hz}$), 33.0 (1 B, s, $h_{1/2} = 700 \text{ Hz}$). – The 10–eV mass spectrum exhibited no parent ion, but the base peak was that of [M minus CH₃]* with m/z = 368 (6), 367 (30), 366 (100), 365 (72), 364 (18) (calcd m/z = 368 (7), 367 (27), 366 (100), 365 (65), 364 (14)).

1-Trimethylsilyl-2,4,6-triethylborazine, $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$

A 500-mL flask was charged with 81 g (0.73 mol) of C₂H₅BCl₂ and cooled to -10°C. While

maintaining a temperature between -10 to 0°C, 130 g (0.80 mol) of HN[Si(CH₃)₃]₂ was added dropwise with stirring. The resultant slurry was stirred until it reached ambient temperature and a small amount of insoluble material was filtered off. (CH₃)₃SiCl (113 g) was distilled from the clear filtrate through a 30-cm silver-mantle column under atmospheric pressure. The residue was distilled under reduced pressure to give about 5 g of (-BC₂H₅-NH-)₃, b.p. 56-57°C(2 Torr) [3], and 25 g of (C₂H₅)₃B₃N₃H₂[Si(CH₃)₃], b.p. 65-68°C(2 Torr) [4]. As is based on NMR and mass spectroscopic data, a higher boiling residue (b.p. 100-105°C(1 Torr), ca. 10 g) contained the diborazinyl (C₂H₅)₃B₃N₃H₂[(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃] [5] and some other unidentified (high-molecular weight) products, but the latter mixture could not be separated.

1-Trimethylsilyl-2,4,6-trichloroborazine, $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$

A mixture of 1.42 g (6.0 mmol) of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ and 60 mL of a 1 M solution of BCl₃ in heptane was heated to reflux for five hours. Volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure and the oily residue was distilled under vacuum to give 1.25 g (81 %) of $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$, b.p. 53°C(1 Torr), m.p. 21–23°C.

Analysis for C₂II₁₁B₃Cl₃N₃Si (256.02)

Found C 14.40 H 4.49 B 12.41 Cl 41.67 N 16.30 Si 10.82,

Calcd C 14.07 H 4.33 B 12.67 Cl 41.54 N 16.41 Si 10.98.

NMR data: $\delta^1 H = 0.44$ (s); $\delta^{11} B = 31.8$ (s, 2B, $h_{1/2} = 160$ Hz), 29.5 (s, 1 B, $h_{1/2} = 140$ Hz); $\delta^{13} C = 3.9$. — Mass spectrum (8 eV): m/z = 245 (7), 244 (30), 243 (27), 242 (97), 241 (75), 240 (100), 239 (68), 238 (18); calcd for [M minus 15]*: m/z = 245 (5), 244 (30), 243 (27), 242 (90), 241 (68), 240 (100), 239 (62), 238 (15).

Reaction of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ with BBr_3

To a solution of 3.05 g (12.9 mmol) of $(C_2H_5)_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ in 40 mL of hexane was added 14.8 mL of a 0.87 M solution of BBr₃ (12.9 mmol) in hexane at -30°C. A precipitate formed immediately which slowly dissolved when the mixture as warmed to room temperature with stirring (ca.

one hour). Volatile materials were evaporated under reduced pressure to leave 2.6 g of oily residue. The volatile material contained (CH₃)₃SiBr ($\delta^{1}H = 0.59$), $C_{2}H_{5}BBr_{2}$ ($\delta^{11}B = 65.1$), and some Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃ ($\delta^{11}B = 36.5 + 27.7$ [4]). The residue was distilled under reduced pressure to yield about 20 % of a forerun, b.p. 40–45°C(1 Torr), which was essentially pure B₁(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃; ca. 60 % of a main fraction, b.p. 66–73°C(1 Torr), consisting of a mixture of some Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃ and mostly the desired Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₂[Si(CH₃)₃] ($\delta^{11}B = 39.1$ (2 B) + 27.7 (1B); 13–eV mass spectral data: m/z = 290 (23), 289 (19), 287 (34), 286 (19), 285 (14), 275 (11), 274 (98), 273 (85), 272 (100), 271 (51). 270 (17); calcd for M* (= C₇H₂₁B₃BrN₃Si): m/z = 290 (13), 289 (87), 288 (71), 287 (100), 286 (60), 285 (14); calcd for [M minus CH₃]*: m/z = 275 (13), 274 (87), 273 (71), 272 (100), 271 (62), 270 (14)); and ca. 20 % of residue. The mass spectrum of the latter exhibited ion clusters as high as m/z = 350, with major clusters at m/z = 186 (containing Br) and m/z = 165 (Br–free). The main fraction could not be further separated and some Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃ was always contained in the Br(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₂[Si(CH₃)₃]. As is based on mass spectral data, the residue contained the diborazinyl (C₂H₅)₃B₃N₃H₂[C(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃] [5] as well as a trimethylsilylated derivative thereof.

Reaction of $Cl_3B_3N_3H_3[Si(CH_3)_3]$ with $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$

Equimolar quantities of $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[Si(CH_3)_3]$ (1.14 g = 4.45 mmol) and $Br(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$ (0.96 g = 4.45 mmol) were heated in an oil bath of 150°C for one hour. Volatile materials were removed at 40°C and under reduced pressure to leave a gummy residue (1.2 g), from which ca. 0.5 g of distilled at 30–36°C(1 Torr), leaving a glassy residue. The distillate was identified (by mass spectral and ¹¹B NMR data) as a mixture of the chloroborazines $Cl_3B_3N_3H_3$, $Cl_2(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$, and $Cl(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3$. The residue showed a broad and unresolved ¹¹B NMR signal with maxima at 29.8 (highest intensity), 31.8, 36.8, and ca. 40.1 ppm. The proton NMR spectrum showed ethyl groups as well as (N)H and (Si)CH₃ signals. The mass spectrum exhibited prominent clusters as high as m/z = 657, 530, and 479, but could not be interpreted. No evidence for the desired diborazinyl $Cl_3B_3N_3H_2[(C_2H_5)_2B_3N_3H_3]$ was observed.

The preceding observations suggest that, initially, the desired diborazinyl Cl₃B₃N₃H₂[(C₂H₅)₂B₃N₃H₃] may be formed (as evidenced by the formation of (CH₃)₃SiBr), which then decomposes with the formation of the cited chloroborazines and the polymeric residue.

Bis(trimethylsilyl)amino-phenylbromoborane, $[(CH_2)_3Si]_2NBBr(C_6H_5)$

To a solution of 3.17 g (13.6 mmol) of $N(Si(CH_3)_3]_3$ in 20 mL of dichloromethane was added a solution of 1.68 g (6.78 mmol) of $C_6H_5BBr_2$ in 10 mL of dichloromethane. The mixture was stirred for two hours at room temperature and volatile material was evaporated under reduced pressure. The oily residue was distilled under vacuum to give a forerun of unreacted $N[Si(CH_3)_3]_3$ and 1.85 g (83 %) of $[(CH_3)_3Si]_2NBBr(C_6H_5)$, b.p. 70°C(1 Torr).

Analysis for C₁₂H₂₃BBrNSi₂ (328.21)

Found C 44.07 H 7.18 B 3.54 Br 24.33 N 4.14 Si 17.06,

Calcd C 43.92 H 7.06 B 3.29 Br 24.34 N 4.27 Si 17.12.

NMR data: $\delta^1 H = 7.70$ (2 H, d, J = 6.3), 7.38 (3 H, m), 0.24 (18 H, s); $\delta^{11} B = 47.4$ (s, $h_{1/2} = 330$ Ha). – The mass spectrum exhibited a very weak parent ion cluster, a strong peak for [M minus CH₃]* in the m/z = 313 region, and the base peak was observed at m/z = 248.

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